

WE CLAIM:

- Sub R.17
1. A sanitary napkin for placement in a crotch portion of an undergarment of a wearer, said sanitary napkin having a main body with a longitudinal axis, two opposite longitudinal side areas and a central region intermediate said two opposite side areas, said sanitary napkin being characterized by a preferential bending zone on said main body extending obliquely in relation to said longitudinal axis, said preferential bending zone extending from one longitudinal side area of the sanitary napkin to an opposite longitudinal side area, crossing the longitudinal axis of the sanitary napkin at said central region.
 2. A sanitary napkin as defined in claim 1, wherein said sanitary napkin having a thickness not exceeding about 5 mm.
 3. A sanitary napkin according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of preferential bending zones spaced apart from one another.
 4. A sanitary napkin according to claim 3, wherein said preferential bending zones intersect each other.
 5. A sanitary napkin according to claim 3, wherein said preferential bending zones are operative to create resistance to lateral compression when said sanitary napkin is in use.
 6. A sanitary napkin according to claim 1, wherein said preferential bending zone is arcuate.
 7. A sanitary napkin according to claim 1, wherein said main body includes a fluid permeable cover layer, an absorbent system and a liquid impervious barrier layer.

8. A sanitary napkin according to claim 7, wherein said preferential bending zone is an embossing on said absorbent system.

9. A sanitary napkin according to claim 7, wherein said preferential bending zone is an embossing of said fluid permeable cover layer and on said absorbent system.

10. A sanitary napkin according to claims 1, wherein said sanitary napkin includes a fastener for retaining said main body to an undergarment.

11. A sanitary napkin according to claim 10, wherein said fastener includes a flap.

12. A sanitary napkin for placement in a crotch portion of an undergarment of a wearer, said sanitary napkin having a main body with a longitudinal axis and two opposite longitudinal side areas, said sanitary napkin being characterized by a preferential bending zone on said main body, said preferential bending zone including a segment crossing the longitudinal axis of the sanitary napkin, said segment crossing the longitudinal axis obliquely in relation to said longitudinal axis, said preferential bending zone extending from one longitudinal side area of the sanitary napkin to an opposite longitudinal side area.

13. A sanitary napkin as defined in claim 12, wherein said sanitary napkin having a thickness not exceeding about 5 mm.

14. A sanitary napkin according to claim 12 comprising a plurality of preferential bending zones spaced apart from one another.

15. A sanitary napkin according to claim 14, wherein said preferential bending zones intersect each other.

16. A sanitary napkin according to claim 14, wherein said preferential bending zones are operative to create resistance to lateral compression when said sanitary napkin is in use.

5 17. A sanitary napkin according to claim 12, wherein said preferential bending zone is arcuate.

18. A sanitary napkin according to claim 12, wherein said main body includes a fluid permeable cover layer, an absorbent system and a liquid
10 impervious barrier layer.

19. A sanitary napkin according to claim 18, wherein said preferential bending zone is an embossing on said absorbent system.

15 20. A sanitary napkin according to claim 18, wherein said preferential bending zone is an embossing of said fluid permeable cover layer and on said absorbent system.

21. A sanitary napkin according to claims 12, wherein said sanitary
20 napkin includes a fastener for retaining said main body to an undergarment.

22. A sanitary napkin according to claim 21, wherein said fastener includes a flap.